

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

26 July 2013

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AMENDED NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY, CONDITIONAL WAIVER OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL FOOD PROCESSORS AND SMALL WINERIES WITHIN THE CENTRAL VALLEY REGION, ORDER R5-2009-0097-0028, CORTOPASSI PARTNERS, L.P. / COCOA FARMS, L.P., CORTO-OLIVE, SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff reviewed the 16 July 2013 Amendment to the Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) submitted by Corto-Olive L.P. to modify current regulatory coverage under the *Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Food Processors and Small Wineries within the Central Valley Region*, Order No. R5-2009-0097 (Order). The Order, which was adopted by the Central Valley Water Board on 8 October 2009, is a conditional waiver of waste discharge requirements for small wineries and small food processors.

Corto-Olive L.P. operates the Corto-Olive Mill at 10201 E. Live Oak Road, in Stockton, California. Cortopassi Partners, L.P. owns Corto-Olive, and Cocoa Farms, L.P. owns a portion of the Land Application Areas (LAAs). These three entities are hereafter collectively referred to as the Discharger. The property consists of approximately 97.8 acres (San Joaquin County APN 063-180-26) used for olive orchard and milling operations. Additional acreage of adjacent olive and cherry orchards are also associated with the Corto-Olive Mill.

On February 17 2010, the Discharger submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) summarizing the discharge of wastewater to land from olive milling operations. The Central Valley Water Board found the RWD to be completed and issued a Notice of Applicability, Order R5-2009-0097-0028 for the facility on 31 December 2010. The Amendment was submitted to supplement the 2010 RWD for the facility, and provide details about recent changes to water quality resulting from modifications to clean-in-place (CIP) procedures.

DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION

The Discharger currently processes between 8,000 to 10,000 tons of olives and generates approximately 100,000 gallons of wastewater annually. Wastewater is generated from fruit washing, plant washdown, equipment cleaning, and boiler blowdown. Under the 2010 NOA, wastewater was considered to be high or low strength depending on the wastewater source and

typical constituent concentrations. The two types of wastewater generated at the facility were as follows:

- Low strength wastewater from olive washing and routine plant sanitation activities is directed into floor drains, piped to a 2,000-gallon underground storage tank (UST), pumped to a 10,000-gallon storage tank equipped with totalizing flow meters, and subsequently applied to an 85-acre cherry orchard LAA. Under the 2010 NOA, this wastewater may be applied to land.
- High strength wastewater consisting of clean-in-place solutions, boiler blowdown, and any boiler feed water treatment residuals (such as ion exchange brine) is directed by floor drains to a second 2,000-gallon UST. Under the 2010 NOA, this wastewater could not be applied to land and was disposed of at the East Bay Municipal Utility District wastewater system or equivalent facility.

Olive processing activities produce some residual solids including leaves and stems, which are separated prior to olive milling, and pomace (the pulpy residue that remains from olive pressing). The combined residual solids are land applied to a 35-acre olive orchard, or disposed off-site at a landfill, compost facility, or as animal feed. Land applied solids are applied with spreaders and then disced into the soil at approximately three to five tons per acre. Residual solids are not applied 24 hours before, after, or during a storm or when soil is saturated.

At the time of the 2010 RWD, the clean-in-place (CIP) process consisted of flushing equipment and olive tanks with a 1-2% potassium hydroxide solution followed by rinsing with acetic acid and water. Recently, Corto-Olive converted the CIP process to use a hot water rinse and a 1-2% solution of monoethanolamine and 2-butanol (Chemco 64) for tank and equipment cleaning, and no longer uses the potassium hydroxide and citric acid solutions. Laboratory analysis of a CIP process wastewater sample collected in May 2013 demonstrated that the salinity of CIP process wastewater is consistent with low strength wastewater from olive washing and routine plant sanitization activities.

Based on the recent change in the CIP process, CIP wastewater using the Chemco 64, or equivalent solution, can be included with other low strength wastewater generated from olive milling activities and discharged to the cherry orchard. Boiler blowdown and boiler feed water treatment residuals (such as ion exchange brine) must continue to be separated out and transported off-site to a permitted disposal facility.

AMENDED NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY

Based on the information submitted in the amended RWD, the discharge satisfies the general and specific conditions of Resolution No. R5-2009-0097 for the inclusion of Clean-In-Place wastewater generated at the site. Order No. R5-2009-0097-0028 is hereby amended to reflect a change in wastewater discharge quality at the facility. A copy of the Order is enclosed and it is also available on the internet at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/#waivers

Please familiarize yourself with the contents of the Order including the discharge and monitoring requirements. The facility must be operated in accordance with the requirements contained in the Order and with the information submitted in the RWD and additional information submitted to complete the RWD. Failure to comply with the monitoring and reporting requirements of the

Order may result in enforcement action pursuant to California Water Code, Section 13261, which can include imposition of civil liability (a fine).

MONITORING AND REPORTING

The Order includes specific monitoring and reporting requirements that you must comply with, including routine monitoring and reporting to the Central Valley Water Board. Please review the Monitoring and Reporting Program closely and establish the appropriate record keeping system so that you are able to complete the required Annual Monitoring Report form, contained in the Order. **By February 1 of each year**, the Annual Monitoring Report form must be submitted to our office, even if there is no discharge during the reporting year.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

The Order includes specific and general conditions required for your operation. In addition, you must maintain control over the discharge and operate in accordance with the information provided in your application and this Notice of Applicability.

Please review this Notice of Applicability carefully to ensure that it completely and accurately reflects the facility name, location, and discharge. Failure to comply with the requirements of the Order may result in enforcement action as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code, which could include civil liability. Discharge of wastes not described in the RWD is prohibited. If the method of waste disposal changes from that described in your application, you must submit an updated RWD to describe the new operation.

Please note that the Order will expire on **8 October 2014**, at which time you must provide one of the following:

1. Submit a new application with a filing fee to obtain coverage under a subsequently adopted waiver; or
2. Submit an application with a filing fee to apply for individual or general Waste Discharge Requirements, or
3. Cease the discharge.

If you have any questions regarding submitting an updated RWD, or questions about your permit obligations, please contact Mr. Scott Armstrong of the Discharge to Land Permitting Unit, at (916) 464-4616 or sarmstrong@waterboards.ca.gov.

All compliance and enforcement questions should be directed to Mr. Brendan Kenny of the Compliance and Enforcement Section, at (916) 464-4635 or bkenny@waterboards.ca.gov. All monitoring reports must be submitted to Mr. Kenny by the compliance due date.

Original signed by Kenneth Landau for:

PAMELA C. CREEDON
Executive Officer

Enclosure: Conditional Waiver of WDRs, Order No. R5-2009-0097

cc: Rodney Estrada, San Joaquin County Environmental Health Dept., Stockton
Gregory Stahl, Ground Zero Analysis, Modesto